

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An antiallergic agent comprising, as an active ingredient, lactic acid bacteria selected from the group consisting of lactic acid bacteria of the species
5 *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, lactic acid bacteria of the species *Lactobacillus fermentum*, and combinations thereof.
- 10 2. The antiallergic agent of claim 1, wherein said lactic acid bacteria of the species *Lactobacillus acidophilus* are bacteria of the strain selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus acidophilus* CL0062 (deposited at International Patent Organism Depositary, FERM BP-4980),
15 *Lactobacillus acidophilus* CL92 (deposited at International Patent Organism Depositary, FERM BP-4981), and combinations thereof.
- 20 3. The antiallergic agent of claim 1, wherein said lactic acid bacteria of the species *Lactobacillus fermentum* are of the strain *Lactobacillus fermentum* CP34 (deposited at International Patent Organism Depositary, FERM BP-8383).
- 25 4. The antiallergic agent of claim 1, wherein said lactic acid bacteria are capable of reducing, when administered orally, antigen-specific IgE level in blood in a mouse rhinitis model wherein antigen-specific IgE level in blood has been elevated by nasally exposing the mouse to

continuous antigen stimulation.

5. Use of lactic acid bacteria selected from the group consisting of lactic acid bacteria of the species

5 *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, lactic acid bacteria of the species *Lactobacillus fermentum*, and combinations thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for reducing allergy.

6. The use of claim 5, wherein said lactic acid bacteria

10 of the species *Lactobacillus acidophilus* are bacteria of the strain selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus acidophilus* CL0062 (deposited at International Patent Organism Depositary, FERM BP-4980), *Lactobacillus acidophilus* CL92 (deposited at International Patent Organism Depositary, FERM BP-4981), and combinations thereof.

7. The use of claim 5, wherein said lactic acid bacteria

15 of the species *Lactobacillus fermentum* are of the strain *Lactobacillus fermentum* CP34 (deposited at International Patent Organism Depositary, FERM BP-8383).

8. The use of claim 5, wherein said lactic acid bacteria

20 are capable of reducing, when administered orally, antigen-specific IgE level in blood in a mouse rhinitis model wherein antigen-specific IgE level in blood has been elevated by nasally exposing the mouse to continuous

antigen stimulation.

9. A method for reducing allergy comprising
administering, to a subject in need of such reduction, an
5 effective dose of an antiallergic agent comprising, as an
active ingredient, lactic acid bacteria selected from the
group consisting of lactic acid bacteria of the species
Lactobacillus acidophilus, lactic acid bacteria of the
species *Lactobacillus fermentum*, and combinations
10 thereof.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said lactic acid
bacteria of the species *Lactobacillus acidophilus* are
bacteria of the strain selected from the group consisting
15 of *Lactobacillus acidophilus* CL0062 (deposited at
International Patent Organism Depository, FERM BP-4980),
Lactobacillus acidophilus CL92 (deposited at
International Patent Organism Depository, FERM BP-4981),
and combinations thereof.

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11. The method of claim 9, wherein said lactic acid
bacteria of the species *Lactobacillus fermentum* are of the
strain *Lactobacillus fermentum* CP34 (deposited at
International Patent Organism Depository, FERM BP-8383).

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12. The method of claim 9, wherein said lactic acid
bacteria are capable of reducing, when administered orally,

antigen-specific IgE level in blood in a mouse rhinitis model wherein antigen-specific IgE level in blood has been elevated by nasally exposing the mouse to continuous antigen stimulation.